

THE SOLE SURVIVOR

By NATHANIEL DICKINSON

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How Armstrong had come to the island may be learned from the records of the life saving service. Sufficient for this tale of his after doings that it was from the wreck of the Spartacus, and in that uncomfortable conveyance known as the breeches-buoy, which, in Armstrong's case, owing to the rolling of the wrecked steamer, had been a giant swing, now dipping him deep in the frothing breakers, now whipping him a half-hundred feet heavenward, so that, when he had been extricated from the breeches, he had been carried to a nearby farm-house and worked over for nearly an hour before he was brought painfully back to an existence which had already begun to bore him at the age of 28.

It was quite in line with Armstrong's romantic career that there should be a young and beautiful girl connected with this experience, and that it should be largely owing to her efficient care that he should find himself on his feet a month after his rescue and the pneumonia which followed it. It was out of keeping with all precedents, however, artistic as it may have been, that Armstrong should fall quite in love with the maiden, for hitherto, in the wisdom of his youth, he had denied that the claims of Cupid were anything but selfish and passing.

Now the unbelievable had become the fact. Skepticism had gone down before the undeniable. It was April, and Armstrong had quite recovered his usual good health; boats left the island weekly, yet he showed no disposition to leave the cozy farm-house, sheltered by the rounded hills from the sweep of the winds, and but for the fact that eventually a new check-book and some clothes he had sent for were delivered, there might have been no connection at all between the island and the mainland for him.

Three joys he had in life now—to eat, as he had never cared to eat before, to sleep the dreamless sleep of the island, and to make love in the intervals to Alice Sands. Of the three he preferred the latter.

It was through Alice's father that Armstrong first heard of the Great Wild Dog. On the northern end, the island was broken into a succession of steep bluffs and stormy gulleys on the sea-side, while inshore, freshwater marshes, impenetrable of foot and overgrown with brush-growth, held the islanders at bay. Here was the home of the animal which was to play so important a part in his life.

Two years previous to the one in which Armstrong had made his debut on the island, a Danish bark had come ashore one night in mid-winter, on the east shore.

Only one of the surfmen had seen aught of life in the terrible seas. To him, peering into the darkness, had come a vision of an enormous head and gleaming teeth held above the froth and borne shoreward on a huge comb. This breaking and receding, a huge dog had staggered up the beach, shaking the water from him. For a moment it had stood looking out toward the wreck as though in last farwell, and then it had trotted slowly away toward the north end of the island and straightway lost itself from the view of the astonished surfmen in the darkness of the night.

How the animal survived that winter none of the islanders could say, but outlive it he did, for in the spring he was seen now and then, gaunt and lean, seeking his food along the wreck-strewn beach, shunning the presence of man as though he had never known it, and retreating into the pastures of the marsh country with his approach.

Then, for a time, he had been forgotten again. But one morning, an islander, whose farm bordered the marshland, had come across the half-eaten carcass of a lamb in his pastures, and soon from all sides came the tale of the short count, for, with the taste of blood on him, this huge Great Dane, for such he was, grew to slaughter from pure lust of killing, and such was his strength and activity that his depredations were of a serious nature. And so he had come to be a bugbear on the island, a name to frighten children with and a burden-bearer of all that was unexplainable.

The wildness of the sea was in the air that morning. By some freak of good fortune Armstrong had persuaded Alice to walk down to the beach with him. Few and far between were those times when he could win her from her allotted tasks about the house. Yet an islander loves to watch the sea in its might as can no inland-er, and so, together they had made their way up the path to the bluffs, he with a rifle cradled on his arm—for ever since he had heard the strange tale of the Great Wild Dog he had longed for a shot at it—until they stood overlooking the seas below.

"What a beautiful blue," murmured the girl.

"Baffling description," assented Armstrong, but his eyes were on hers as he spoke.

"Oh, I love the sea," said the girl. "And I love—". The girl turned toward him, "the sea, too," he concluded, lamely, deploring his cowardice the while.

"Yet it is cruel, inhuman."

"Cruel,—not necessarily inhuman."

She looked up inquiring.

"Some humans are cruel," he explained.

"But the sea is unconsciously cruel."

"And the humans?" Her eyes fell before the meaning in his.

"Do you mean that I am cruel?" she demanded, with island directness.

"In a way, yes," he answered, sticking to his guns.

"In what way?"

"May I begin at the beginning?" he queried.

She nodded.

"To begin with, then, I love you," he said, gravely. Her face slowly crimsoned.

"The beginning must be the end," she said firmly.

"You are confessedly cruel," laughed Armstrong, but there was nothing of mirth in the laugh. The girl held her silence.

Armstrong's eyes, wandering gloomily seaward, dwelt upon a floating gull, cradling beyond the breakers. He raised his rifle, glanced along the sights, and the crash of the gun drowned the boom of the surf. Just beyond the gull rose a spurt of spray, the bird rose wearily from the heaving bosom of the sea and drifted away with the wind, unscathed.

"Ill luck to one who kills a gull," they say," commented Armstrong. He aimed at one farther out. Again the rifle crashed, and this one stretched its broad wings out in death. Armstrong's ill-luck came sooner than he could have guessed. The girl was on her feet instantly. Anger, and a touch, he thought, of superstition, he saw in her face. He had offended against the island traditions, but more, he had sinned against womanly tenderness. The sea-blue eyes blazed and the brown face flushed darkly.

"If I am cruel, you are heartless," she cried, passionately. She turned from him and plunged recklessly down the path to the beach, and, reaching this in safety, made her way northward along it.

As for Armstrong, he recovered from his astonishment to smile queerly to himself. Then he swung his long legs over the cliff edge and took shot after shot at the gulls as long as he judged the girl in hearing.

It might have been a half hour that Armstrong sat thus in the sulks. At the end of this time his ill-temper passed, as might a cloud over the sun and, slinging the rifle over his shoulder, he set out good-humoredly after the girl.

The girl was in a mood to walk that day, Armstrong decided, for point after point of the curving sea-front he rounded without seeing her, and had it not been for the print of her small shoes in the hard sand he would have believed she had ascended the cliffs again by one of the gullies. And then, as he glanced ahead along this track it seemed to him that the trail had doubled. He hurried on to the spot, filled with grim foreboding. It was as he had thought, a new trail swept in from the foot of a neighboring gully, and a single glance told Armstrong that it was that of an animal, and that animal—the Great Wild Dog.

Meanwhile the girl had wandered on with her thoughts. Her sudden anger with the man had left her. After all, she could not expect in him the virtues of her own sex. Nor would she wish them. He was a man, and a masterful one. She threw herself on the dry sand at the foot of the cliff. Now and then a sob escaped her, and then at last, her head on her arm, she fell into troubled slumber.

The booming waves wove themselves into her dreams. It seemed to her that each was a hungry wolf with grinding teeth, that each came nearer than its predecessor, and that she was powerless to move. Then, in the horror of that nightmare, she felt a warm breath on her cheek—at last one had reached her. She uttered a low cry of terror and opened her eyes to a more terrible sight, for standing over her, hunger in its fierce eyes, its lips drawn back to show each fang, its ears as erect as those of a wolf, was the most monstrous and savage creature she had ever seen.

She sprang to her feet, the fear of death in her eyes, and the beast retreated a step in doubt. For a moment the huge wild dog watched her, his cruel eyes measuring the distance—playing with her as a cat with a mouse—then he leaped after her.

One despairing glance the girl cast over her shoulder, and at the sight her strength left her and she sank to the sand. Then, as she waited an eternity to feel those white fangs at her throat, there came the near-by crash of a rifle, a huge shadow flitted over her, and on the wet sand beyond her she saw the monstrous dog struggling convulsively in its death agony.

When Armstrong reached her side with his smoking rifle, he found her hysterical, shaking like a leaf in the wind. He lifted her to her feet and he clung to him as might a child, her arms about his neck and her flushed and terror-stricken face on his breast, and, like a child he comforted her. He seated himself on the sand with his back to a boulder and the dead beast hidden from sight, smoothed back her tumbled hair, stroked her forehead, and called her every endearing name that came to his tongue in his joy at having saved her. As for her, she clung to him without a word, clung as though she meant never to let him go. He was strong and could protect her, her faith in herself was gone, and in its place was dependence—and love.

MAKE BEEF RAISING PAY YOU A PROFIT

Factors Which Influence the Value and Cost of Feeders—By J. H. Skinner.

The production of cattle which will return a profit both to the producer and the feeder, is a problem which deserves careful attention. It is easily possible to buy cattle which have been produced at a loss and fatten them at a profit, but the aim of the most thoughtful and intelligent men engaged in the beef cattle business is to encourage the production of a grade of cattle which will return a profit when sold as feeders without diminishing the profits in finishing them. In producing such cattle the particular system to be followed should be determined by the size, location and adaptability of the farm. One farm may be especially adapted



High grade Hereford, "Quality" in a feeder is synonymous with capacity. This type can be fed at any age and it pays to make them prime. Fed as a yearling at the station. Daily gain for six months 2.63 pounds.

for the production of feeders, another for the production of yearling beef and still another only for finishing cattle.

It is of vital importance to the producer to be able to appreciate the factors which influence the value of feed-

breeding; 3. Age; 4. Condition; 5. Weight.

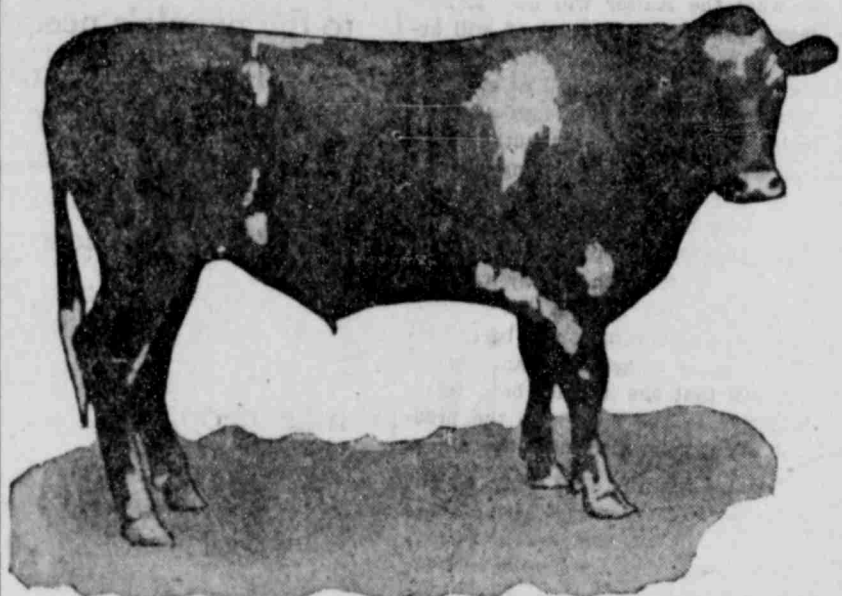
A typical beef steer is blocky and compact; has a short, deep body, short, thick neck, short straight legs, straight back and underline, an abundance of width from one end to the other, plenty of scale and a "feeder's head and eye." The skilled feeder buyer pays much more attention to the head than the inexperienced buyer would deem necessary, especially with stock cattle, which are not filled out sufficiently to judge as to their future development and probable form when finished. He will also realize at first glance whether or not the eye is one that indicates a quiet and contented disposition.

The head should be broad, short, with full forehead, strong jaw, large mouth and nostrils, and free from either coarseness or delicacy. If such a head is found on a steer in feeder condition, it is usually a guarantee that he will make good use of feed and develop into a thick, blocky individual when finished. A thick, short neck is desirable, not because of its intrinsic value but because it usually indicates a thick carcass.

A short, straight back indicates strong muscular development and a tendency to mature early. Other things being equal, the steer with the broadest and thickest back will be the most valuable as the highest priced cuts of meat are taken from the back and loin.

Capacity for feed is essential in a feeder as the body must be maintained and provided with heat and energy before any of the food is stored in the form of fat.

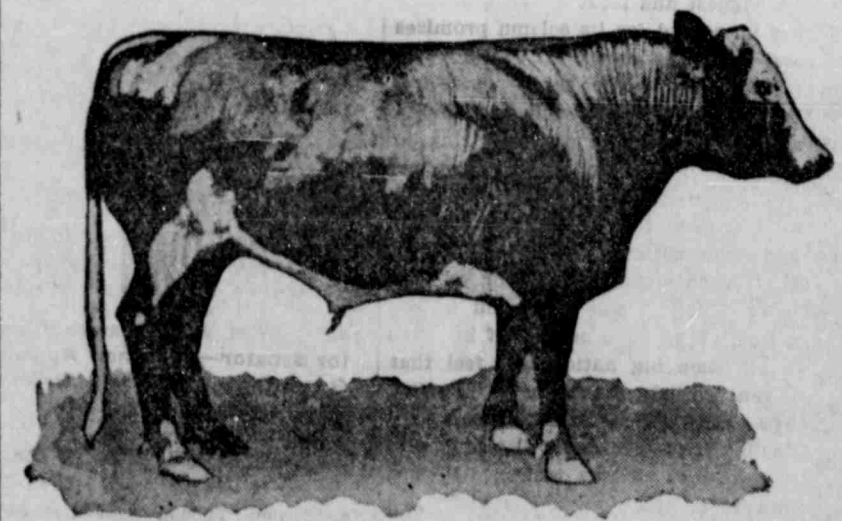
Short, straight legs, together with a short, deep, broad body, are asso-



Steer sired by grade bull, after having been fed for six months. Daily gain, 1.54 lbs.

ciated with early maturity. This is desirable from the producer's standpoint, as it enables him to market his cattle as feeders weighing 1,000 pounds at 18 to 20 months instead of keeping them a year longer in order to attain the same weight. The early maturing steer will also sell for a greater price per pound, as the experienced feeder has learned that they will not only make rapid and economical gains but will finish quicker than those which are slower in maturing. Not only is this type more desirable

ers in order to make the maximum profit from the business. It is essential that he recognize good and bad features in order to select, breed and produce what is wanted by the feeder. It is of importance to the feeder to have a knowledge of what determines the market price and value of different grades of feeders in order that he may buy the kind of cattle which are relatively the cheapest at the time of purchase. The chief aim in producing or in feeding beef cattle is to turn large quantities



Steer sired by pure bred bull, after being fed six months. Daily gain, 3.08 lbs. Notice how much greater the improvement is on the high grade steer while in the feed lot.

of grain and roughage into a more profitable product, to maintain soil fertility and to increase the yield of crops from year to year. The successful beef cattle producer or feeder must of necessity be a good farmer and, in addition, have the business ability and the knowledge of breeding, feeding and management of livestock, to derive two profits, one from growing farm products, the other from feeding them on the farm. Regardless of the system followed, whether it be the production of feeders or finishing cattle, a knowledge of the factors which control the cost of feeders is of vital importance.

These factors may be arranged into two distinct groups; one inherent in the individual, which causes one grade of cattle to bring a higher price per hundred weight than another; the other, depending on financial or industrial or market conditions and influencing all grades. The group of factors which influences the prices of various grades of cattle is as follows: 1. Type or conformity; 2. Quality and

Feeding Stock a Particular Job.—The feeding of cattle when corn sold at ten cents a bushel was an unscientific proposition, and many men made money out of the operation without thinking much about it. Corn cannot be now unscientifically fed and return a profit from its use. Conditions in the raising of live stock have so changed in ten years that the men that go only on past experience are almost certain to be heavy losers. Live stock raising must now be studied from entirely new viewpoints.

Pump Packing.—Try a strand of common cotton rope to pack your pump with; it is better than most other packing.

Signs That Tell.—Neat farm houses and good barns are generally signs of good dairymen.

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MUSIC, Singing (free), Read Organ, Voice Culture, Piano, Theory, Band, may be taken as an extra in connection with any course. Small extra fees.

Expenses, Regulations, Opening Days.

Berea College is not a money-making institution. All the money received from students is paid out for their benefit, and the School expends on an average upon each student about fifty dollars a year more than he pays in. This great deficit is made up by the gifts of Christian and patriotic people who are supporting Berea in order that it may train young men and women for lives of usefulness.

OUR SCHOOL IS LIKE A FAMILY, with careful regulations to protect the character and reputation of the young people. Our students come from the best families and are earnest to do well and improve. For any who may be sick the College provides doctor and nurse without extra charge.

All except those with parents in Berea live in College buildings, and assist in work of boarding hall, farm and shops, receiving valuable training, and getting pay according to the value of their labor. Except in winter it is expected that all will have a chance to earn as much as 35 cents a week. Some who need to earn more may, by writing to the Secretary before coming, secure extra employment so as to earn from 50 cents to one dollar a week.

PERSONAL EXPENSES for clothing, laundry, postage, books, etc., vary with different people. Berea favors plain clothing. Our climate is the best, but as students must attend classes regardless of the weather, warm wraps and underclothing, umbrellas and overshoes, are necessary. The Co-operative Store furnishes books, toilet articles, work uniforms, umbrellas and other necessary articles at cost.

LIVING EXPENSES are really below cost. The College asks no rent for the fine buildings in which students live, charging only enough room rent to pay for cleaning, repairs, fuel, lights, and washing of bedding and towels. For table board, without coffee or extras, \$1.35 a week in the fall, and \$1.50 in winter. For room, furnished, fuel, lights, washing of bedding, 40 cents a week in fall and spring, 50 cents in winter.

SCHOOL FEES are two. First a "Dollar Deposit," as guarantee for return of room key, library books, etc. This is paid but once, and is returned when the student departs.

Second an "Incidental Fee" to help on expenses for care of school buildings, hospital library, etc. (Students pay nothing for tuition or services of teachers—all our instruction is a free gift). The Incidental Fee for most students is \$5.00 a term (\$4.00 in lower Model Schools, \$6.00 in courses with Latin, and \$7.00 in Collegiate courses).

PAYMENT MUST BE IN ADVANCE. Incidental fee and room rent by the term, board by the half term. Installments are as follows:

SPRING—10 weeks, \$22.50—in one payment \$22.00. Installment plan: first day \$16.75 (including \$1.00 deposit), middle of term \$6.75.

SPRING—4 weeks' term for those who must leave for farm work, \$9.40.

SPRING—7 weeks' term for those who must leave for teachers' examinations, \$16.45.

FALL, 1908—14 weeks, \$29.50—in one payment \$29.00. Installment plan: first day \$21.05 (including \$1.00 deposit), middle of term \$9.45.

REFUNDING. Students who leave by permission before the end of a term receive back for money advanced as follows:

On board, in full except that no allowance is made for any fraction of a week.

On room, or on any "special expenses," no allowance for any unexpired fraction of a month, and in any case a forfeiture of fifty cents.

On incidental fee, a certificate allowing the student to apply the amount advanced for term bills when he returns provided it is within four terms, but making no allowance for any fraction of a month.

IT PAYS TO STAY—When you have made your journey and are well situated in school it stays to stay as long as possible.

The first day of Winter term is January 6, 1909.

The first day of Fall term is September 16, 1908.

For information or friendly advice, write to the Secretary.

WILL C. GAMBLE,
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